

## The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

## Testimony to the Thirty-First Legislature 2022 Regular Session

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Hawai'i State Capitol Conference Room 325 and Via Videoconference

> by Michelle D. Acosta Deputy Chief Court Administrator First Circuit

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 1346, S.D. 2, Relating to Juror Compensation.

**Purpose:** Increases compensation for a juror or a prospective juror from \$30 to \$50 for each day of attendance at court. Effective July 1, 2050. (SD2)

## **Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary would like to thank the Senate Committee on Judiciary for considering the Judiciary's proposal to increase juror compensation from \$30 to \$50 recognizing that the last increase occurred in 1986.

The Judiciary is in support of this bill and offers the following comments on Senate Bill No. 1346 S.D. 2:

The payment for jury service under Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 612 represents (1) the Legislature's acknowledgment of the sacrifice our citizenry makes to serve and (2) an expression of its appreciation for such service.



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It is estimated that the increase in funding required would be approximately \$582,553 per fiscal year at a 66 percent rate (\$30 to \$50) increase, which by and large would be apportioned to jurors' per diem payments. Although the Judiciary acknowledges the benefit of increased juror compensation, it would as a practical matter be unable to support, much less implement, such legislation without commensurate funding by the Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 1346 S.D. 2.